

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: USE OF ADVANCED : EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 2021-2  
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY : 43 MM 2020  
IN COURTS OF THE SEVENTH :  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT :

**ORDER**

AND NOW, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, pursuant to the Supreme Court Order of August 12, 2021, the Court issues the following Order.

1. Subject to state and federal constitutional requirements, the operation of any statewide or local rules that restrict, directly or indirectly, the use of Advanced Communication Technology (“ACT”) in court proceedings is suspended for the following limited purpose.

2. ACT shall be used to conduct all criminal proceedings, excluding trials, in any matter in which the defendant is in custody.


3. In any non-criminal, e.g., Dependency and Family Court, matter in which a participant is in custody, the presiding Judge or Judicial Officer may in her or his discretion conduct the proceeding using ACT.

This Order shall apply to the Court of Common Pleas and all Magisterial District Courts of the Seventh Judicial District.

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of August 12, 2021, absent extraordinary circumstances, Judges and Judicial Officers shall be present in the courthouse, judicial center, or other court facility whenever a proceeding using ACT is held under the authority of this Order.

This Order shall be effective August 16, 2021, through October 1, 2021.

BY THE COURT:

  
Wallace H. Bateman Jr., President Judge